

REMARKS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 15-29 of the application are allowed. Applicant graciously accepts the allowed claims.

Claims 3-4 and 8-10 stand objected to in the Office Action for being dependent upon a rejected base claim. These claims are amended into independent form. The Office Action states that the objected claims "would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." Therefore, Claims 3-4 and 8-10 have been amended to traverse the objections and to be placed in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1, 2, 5-7, 11-14, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,078,579 to Weingarten ("Weingarten").

Claims 1 and 11

Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to include the feature of "maintaining the first connection across the first communication network while the second network connection is being established." This amended feature is fully disclosed in the specification (Fig. 2, and pages 12-14) and does not introduce new matter.

In contrast to the amended features of Claims 1 and 11, Weingarten states that the "first telephone 70 would then

terminate the connection with the second telephone 72" (col. 7, lines 30-31). Therefore, establishing network connections in Weingarten involves a termination of a network connection. The Claims 1 and 11 are different since they define that both network connectivities are established simultaneously. The embodiment in Fig. 4 and col. 7, lines 25-42 of Weingarten teaches establishing a connection for the second network sequentially, but not simultaneously. Hence, Weingarten does not teach or suggest all of the features of the amended claims.

Since Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to emphasize their patentable distinctions over Weingarten, Claims 1 and 11 should be allowed.

Claims 12-14

Claims 12-14 are patentable over Weingarten because Weingarten fails to teach or suggest several recited features.

First, The Office Action again points to Fig. 4, and col. 7, lines 25-42 of Weingarten as allegedly anticipating the features of Claims 12-14. However, Claim 12 has been amended to include the feature of "maintaining the first connection across the first communication network while the second network connection is being established." As discussed above with respect to Claims 1 and 11, Weingarten does not teach or suggest the same feature. Therefore, Claim 12 is patentable.

Moreover, Claims 13-14 have been amended to include "simultaneous network connections for the computer network and the second network."

In comparison, Weingarten fails to teach the simultaneous feature cited above. In light of the amendments to these claims, Weingarten does not teach all of the features of the amended claims. Therefore, the rejections to Claims 12-14 should be withdrawn.

Claim 30

Claim 30 is also patentable over Weingarten because Weingarten fails to teach or suggest the "simultaneous" network connection feature of Claim 30. Hence, Claim 30 has been amended to include the previously-disclosed feature of simultaneous connections, as discussed above. Weingarten does not teach "supporting simultaneous network connections for the computer network and the communications network" in Fig. 4 or col. 7, lines 25-42. Again, it is unclear for the Applicant to see how Weingarten teaches or suggests all of the features of the amended claim.

Therefore, at least because Weingarten does not teach or suggest all of the features of Claim 30, Claim 30 should be allowed.

Dependent Claims - Claims 2, 5-7

Claim 7 stands rejected in the Office Action. Claim 7 is cancelled to obviate this rejection.

The remaining claims, Claims 2, 5, and 6, each depend from an independent claim, Claim 1, discussed above. Accordingly, these dependent claims are allowable for the reasons that their respective independent claim is allowable and for reciting allowable subject matter in their own right. Independent consideration and allowance of the dependent claims are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks, Applicant believes that all pending claims are in condition for allowance and asks that all pending claims be allowed.

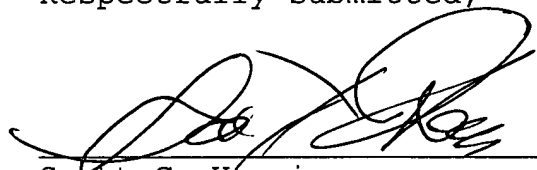
The foregoing comments made with respect to the positions taken by the Examiner are not to be construed as acquiescence by

the Applicant with other positions of the Examiner that have not been explicitly contested. Accordingly, Applicants' arguments for patentability of a claim should not be construed as implying that there are not other good reasons for patentability of that claim or other claims.

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes being made by the current amendment. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version with markings to show changes made

In the claims:

Claim 7 has been cancelled.

Claims 1, 3-4, 8-14, and 30 have been amended as follows:

1. A method of establishing a network connection, the method comprising:

establishing a connection across a first communication network that carries audio signals;

encoding a computer network address for a second network different from the first network into an encoded network address and sending the encoded network address across the first network; [and]

using [said] the network address that is sent over [said] the first network to establish a network connection on [said] the second network[.]; and

maintaining the first connection across the first communication network while the second network connection is being established.

3. A method of establishing a network connection, the method comprising:

establishing a connection across a first communication network that carries audio signals;

encoding a computer network address for a second network different from the first network into an encoded network address and sending the encoded network address across the first network, [The method of claim 2] where the encoded network address is encoded using dual tone multi-frequency signals[.]; and

using the network address that is sent over the first network to establish a network connection on the second network, where the first network comprises a voice telephone network.

4. A method of establishing a network connection, the method comprising:

establishing a connection across a first communication network that carries audio signals;

encoding a computer network address for a second network different from the first network into an encoded network address and sending the encoded network address across the first network [The method of claim 1], where the encoded network address is appended to telephone network signaling data[.]; and

using the network address that is sent over the first network to establish a network connection on the second network.

8. [The method of claim 1, further comprising:] A method of establishing a network connection, the method comprising:

establishing a connection across a first communication network that carries audio signals;

encoding a computer network address for a second network different from the first network into an encoded network address and sending the encoded network address across the first network;

using the network address that is sent over the first network to establish a network connection on the second network;

receiving a stream of audio signals;

sending the audio signals through the connection across the voice telephone network prior to said using said network address to establish a network connection; and

sending the audio signals through the connection across the computer network after said using said network address to establish a network connection.

9. [The method of claim 1, further comprising:] A method of establishing a network connection, the method comprising:

establishing a connection across a first communication network that carries audio signals;

encoding a computer network address for a second network different from the first network into an encoded network address and sending the encoded network address across the first network;

using the network address that is sent over the first network to establish a network connection on the second network;

receiving a stream of audio signals;

encrypting the audio signals using a first computer that is connected to the second network to form encrypted audio signals; and

sending the encrypted audio signals across the first network connection.

10. [The method of claim 1, further comprising:] A method of establishing a network connection, the method comprising:

establishing a connection across a first communication network that carries audio signals;

encoding a computer network address for a second network different from the first network into an encoded network address and sending the encoded network address across the first network;

using the network address that is sent over the first network to establish a network connection on the second network;
transmitting an encryption key across the second network using the network connection;
encrypting an audio signal using the encryption key to form an encrypted audio signal; and
transmitting the encrypted audio signal across the first network.

11. A method of establishing a network connection, the method comprising:

establishing a first connection across a voice telephone network between a first location and a second location;

encoding a computer network address for a specified computer network different from the voice telephone network, into an encoded network address and sending the encoded network address across the voice telephone network from the first location to the second location; [and]

establishing a second connection between the first location and the second location across the computer network using the computer network address sent across the telephone network[.]; and

maintaining the first connection across the first communication network while the second network connection is being established.

12. A method of establishing a network connection, the method comprising:

establishing a first connection across a voice telephone network between a first location and a second location;

receiving an encoded network address at said second location, from the voice telephone network for a computer network that is different than the voice telephone network;

translating the encoded network address to a computer network address; [and]

establishing a second connection between the first location and the second location across the computer network using the computer network address received from said voice telephone network[.]; and

maintaining the first connection across the first communication network while the second network connection is being established.

13. A computer program stored on a computer-readable medium, for establishing a network connection, the computer program including instructions operable to cause a computer to:

obtain a computer network address for a computer network;

send the computer network address across a second network different than the computer network; [and]

receive a network connection request to establish a network connection across the computer network, and using the computer network address sent across the second network to establish the network connection sent over the second network[.]; and

support simultaneous network connections for the computer network and the second network.

14. A computer program stored on a computer-readable medium, for establishing a network connection, the computer program including instructions operable to cause a computer to:

encode a computer network address for a specified computer network different from a communications network that carries audio signals into an encoded network address and send the encoded network address across the communications network; [and]

use said computer network address to establish a network connection on said computer network based on said computer network address sent over the communications network[.]; and

support simultaneous network connections for the computer network and the communications network.

30. An article comprising:

a storage medium having stored thereon instructions which, when executed by a computing device, result in:

encoding a computer network address for a specified computer network different from a communications network that carries audio signals into an encoded network address and send the encoded network address across the communications network; and

using said computer network address to establish a network connection on said computer network[.]; and

supporting simultaneous network connections for the computer network and the communications network.